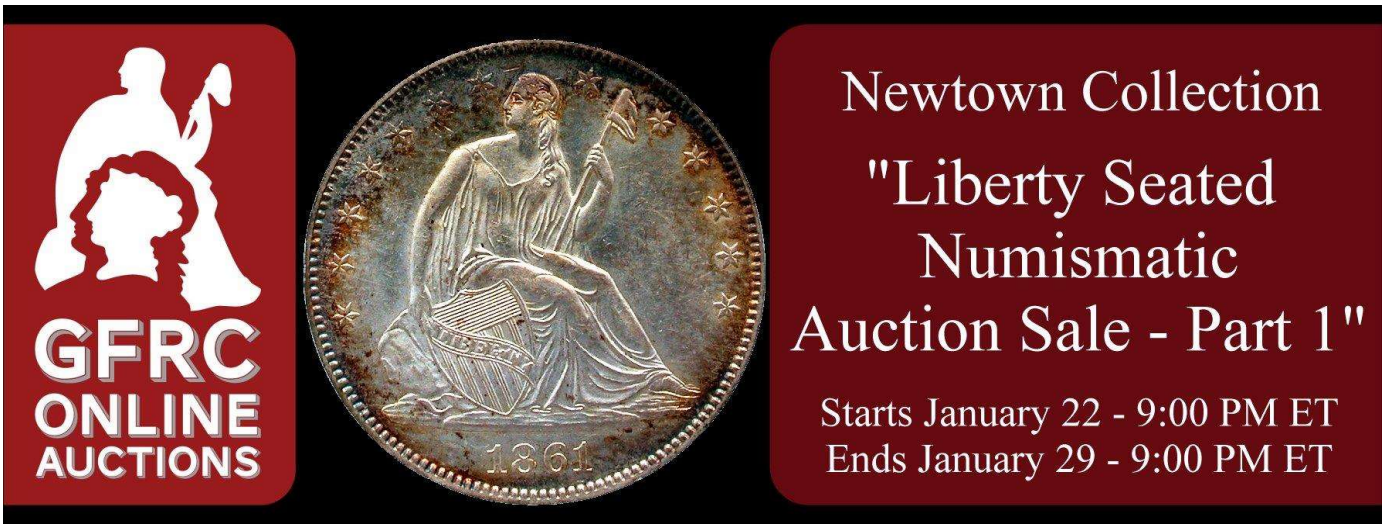
Presenting the

Newtown Collection's

Liberty Seated Numismatic Auction Sale - Part 1

January 22, 2022 – January 29, 2022



The Newtown Collection is back with a host of Liberty Seated dime and half dollar die varieties plus high-grade CAC approved type coins!

- 105 Offerings across Two Noteworthy Sales
- A Multiple Consignment Event Increases Catalog Diversity
- CAC Approved Lots Abound!
- Challenging Liberty Seated Dime and Half Dollar Varieties
- Near Complete 1861-O Half Dollar Varieties Set

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1864 Copper Nickel 1C, PCGS MS64 CAC, Near-Gem Original. The early Indian cents were coined with a mix of 88% copper and 12% nickel, leading to coloration that differs from the 95% copper pieces struck later. This piece reveals a mix of taupe and deep gold patina atop the devices, while obverse and reverse fields exhibit deeper shades in the protected areas. A quick flip reveals ample, frosted luster, and the overall eye appeal easily merits the CAC designation. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder with CAC approval.

1864 Bronze 1C, PCGS MS65RB CAC, Gem Original. Red and brown shades create an obverse woodgrain effect, while the reverse reveals deeper navy and burgundy patina within the wreath, surrounded by original red color at the periphery. Several radial die cracks on the reverse connect the wreath to the rim. Frosty luster flows from both sides, and the eye appeal is strong. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder with CAC approval.

1864 L on Ribbon Snow-6 1C, PCGS MS64RB, Near-Gem. Sea-green, burnt orange, and navy patina liberally drapes the obverse of this With L Indian cent. The reverse exhibits mixed red and brown color throughout with russet shades around C(ENT). Fields are lightly mirrored with steely luster, and the overall flash easily penetrates the thick skin. Housed in a Gen 4.0 (1998-2002) holder with Eagle Eye Photo Seal approval and certificate card.

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1955 Doubled Die Obverse 1C, PCGS AU58 CAC, Choice Original. For collectors of a certain age, the holy grails of pocket change finds were the 1955 Doubled Die reverse and the 1909-S VDB Lincoln cents. Millions of collectors searched for these needles in a haystack, and only a few were successful. That did not stop us from trying, an even today Lincolns with older patina demand a quick check to verify the date. This example exhibits even, original copper shading with light crust in the protected areas. Fields are smooth, with high point wear accounting for the near-MS grade. Housed in a PCGS Gen 5.0 (2015) holder with CAC approval. The Doubled Die Obverse designation is listed on the holder.

1864 Small Motto 2C, PCGS MS65BN CAC, Gem Original, Rare Variety. The Mint introduced the motto IN GOD WE TRUST in this year, a nod to the horrific carnage of the Civil War and the nation's dependence on the Almighty. The Small Motto variety is considerably scarcer than the Large Motto, with the CAC census reporting more than three times as many Large Motto pieces. This example is near completely brown with bits of original red color in the protected areas. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder with CAC approval.

1864 Large Motto 2C, PCGS MS64RB CAC, Near-Gem Original. The piece retains significant red color, more than enough to merit the RB designation. As is typical, the red patina huddles around the protected areas, within the wreath and reverse legend. This date is a natural selection as an example of the two-cent design, struck in ample quantity and representing the first year of issue. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder with CAC approval.

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1865 Fancy 5 2C, PCGS MS65RB CAC, Gem Original, Rotated Reverse. This lustrous MS63 piece reveals generous frost when tilted under a light, and the hammered strike is on full display as the cartwheel rotates around the rims. This piece is untoned but retains original surfaces. A comparison with the many washed out pieces seen on a typical bourse floor will quickly confirm this assessment. The faint, vertical reverse die polish is instructive for demonstrating the difference between die polish and hairlines, which are not present here. One of the pleasures of viewing Mint State pieces is that die characteristics are readily apparent. CAC reports 46 pieces in all grades. Housed in a PCGS Gen 3.1 (1993-1998) old green holder with CAC approval.

1845 V-5 H10C, PCGS MS64 CAC, Near-Gem Original. Pale shades of blue-green patina grace the stars while a wash of olive color diagonally crosses the figure of Liberty. The reverse is lighter throughout, with similar coloration. Frosted luster creates moderate cartwheels, consistent with the assigned grade. V-5, with distinct repunching of the 5. CAC has approved 61 pieces in all grades. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder with CAC approval.

1846 H10C, NGC EF45 CAC, Key Date, Choice Original. The 1846 is the well-known stopper within the half dime series, and even the finest known example comes in at MS63, while the Gardner collection included an MS62 piece. Surfaces reveal residual, steely luster, with gray and silver-colored devices surrounded by deeper shades in the protected areas. The CAC population is 40 pieces, with just four examples higher. This represents an important offering - an example of a rare issue that stands within the CAC condition census. Housed in a newer NGC holder with CAC approval.

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1853-O No Arrows H10C, PCGS EF40, Rare Issue, Choice Original. Thick patina reveals ample shades of sea-green patina, with additional russet color among the right stars and reverse legend to the lower left. Steely, residual luster remains under the thick patina. The head and date are weakly impressed, as is typical for the issue. This is the key New Orleans piece within the Seated half dime series, as many examples were likely melted near the time of issue. The PCGS population is 96 pieces in all grades. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.6 (2003-2004) holder.

1861 H10C, PCGS MS67 CAC, Superb-Gem Original. Thick, frosted luster reveals dancing cartwheels, and the flash is immediately evident with the slightest flip of the coin. Fields exhibit forest-green shading with russet and gold patina at the rims. The CAC population is 72 pieces in all grades, with just two examples in MS67 and none higher. This is the sole finest coin in the PCGS census, and a more appealing representative of the type is hard to imagine. The overall eye appeal is difficult to overstate, and this piece would be an important addition to any collection. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.1 holder with CAC approval.

1863-S H10C, PCGS AU55 CAC, Near-Gem Original. Steely, reflective luster is more intense than suggested by the images. A splash of ebony patina delivers bits of charcoal color on both sides, atop a underlying palette of powder blue and olive color. While not as scarce as the 1863 issue, the 1863-S enjoys a price profile substantially above type example. The CAC population is 22 pieces in all grades. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.5 (2012-2013) holder with CAC approval.

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1865 H10C, PCGS AU50, Choice Original. This is a key Philadelphia piece in the Seated half dime series, with a mintage of 13,000 pieces, of which PCGS has certified 104 examples. Luster is steely and close to partially mirrored, revealing gray and navy patina throughout both sides. Light crust clings to the protected areas within the date, legend, and wreath. A few lines in the right field preclude CAC consideration. Housed in a PCGS Gen 3.1 (1993-1998) old green holder.

1866 H10C, PCGS AU58 CAC, Near-Gem Original. This is an exceptionally pleasing piece with vivid blue patina at the rims and more intense shades at the centers. Deeply original surfaces host light crust, and the eye appeal is strong. Philadelphia strikes between 1863 and 1867 are all scarce, and, indeed, CAC has approved a mere 19 example of the 1866 issue in all grades. This piece presents a compelling combination of rarity and aesthetic appeal, and the winning bidder will have acquired a true prize. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.4 (2005-2011) holder with CAC approval.

1866 H10C, PCGS PR66 CAC, Gem Original. Strike variability is wide within the Liberty Seated series, and a hammered proof piece, such as this, is a pleasant exception that fully reveals the intentions of the engraver. The usual problem areas of the head and the high points of the wreath are completely detailed and sharply delineated. This example reveals deep, watery mirrors, intense reflective luster, and wire rims. Central figures exhibit emerald shades while the fields are marked by silver and gray patina. CAC has approved 43 coins in all grades with just four pieces finer. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.1 holder with CAC approval.

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1850 Briggs 1-A 25C, PCGS AU53 CAC, Choice Original. Frosted luster imparts moderate cartwheel effect that is still apparent on this AU example. Rich gold patina fills the stars and legend, surrounding silver-shaded central devices. Nicely struck, with sharp star points and separated claws. CAC has certified 31 pieces in all grades. Briggs 1-A, with an extra digit punched in the dentils below the 1 in the date. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder with CAC approval.

1853-O Briggs 2-C 25C, PCGS MS63 CAC, Choice Original, CAC Population Two in Mint State. Mixed shades of evergreen and blue-gray wash over the figure of Liberty, while the reverse exhibits a russet center with deep blue-green patina at the rim. The Arrows and Ray design is a one-year type in the quarter and half dollar series, and the New Orleans coin is far scarcer than its Philadelphia counterpart, with less than one-tenth of the production. Strike is typical, with all stars soft. The CAC census notes 40 pieces in all grades, with only two at the MS level, this coin and another in MS64. This piece will not sell cheaply, but the quality is worth pushing for. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.1 holder with CAC approval.

1876-S 25C, PCGS MS63 CAC, Choice Original. Satiny luster imparts swirling cartwheels atop of the surfaces of this collectible quarter. Massive silver discoveries in the western U.S. led to strong production at the Mints in the mid-1870s, but surprisingly few pieces have survived in original condition. The CAC census notes only 45 pieces in all grades, a remarkably low number given the mintage of over 8 million pieces. This example is thickly toned, with deep gold and midnight blue patina that is particularly intense on the reverse. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder with CAC approval.

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1839 No Drapery WB-2 50C, PCGS AU53 CAC, Choice Original. The 1839 No Drapery variety represents the inaugural issue of the Liberty Seated half dollar series, with the drapery added later in the same year. This is a gorgeous example with attractive pastel obverse patina, while the reverse exhibits silver and gray shades. Original Mint bloom remains in the protected areas of the stars and legend. Typically struck, with a few soft stars and characteristic weakness in the eagle's left leg. WB-2 with a diagonal die line in the reverse shield, the only use of this reverse die. CAC notes 59 pieces in all grades, with 15 pieces finer. As is typical for Liberty Seated coinage, the CAC population is solidly in the two-digit range. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.1 (2002-2004) holder with CAC approval. Ex. Seal Beach Collection.

1840 Reverse of 1839 WB-10 50C, PCGS AU55 CAC, Doubled Date, Choice Original. A splendid example with transparent ebony-gray patina that covers lightly mirrored fields. Date is repunched left and lower than obverse dies of this date. Housed in PCGS Gen 4.6 (2013-2014) holder. The label reads "RPD, FS-302, WB-104, Reverse of 1839." CAC approval validates the originality, eye appeal and accurate grading. An important offering from the Newtown Collection for the advanced collector of Liberty Seated halves. Ex. Seal Beach Collection.

1840(O) Reverse of 1838 WB-12 50C, PCGS EF45, Choice Original, Popular Type and Variety. Although this piece bears no mintmark, it was actually struck in New Orleans, along with the WB-4 variety of this year. The absence of a mintmark is anomalous within U.S. coinage, and the variety is recognized in the PCGS, NGC, and CAC census reports. The New Orleans origin of this piece was co-discovered by Bill Bugert and Randy Wiley and is explained in detail in the March 1987 Gobrecht Journal (https://archive.org/details/gobrechtjournalfn038libe). This example exhibits mixed gold, tan, and chestnut patina, with high points and recessed areas marked by lighter color. Steely fields exhibit residual, reflective luster. Well-struck, with about half the star centers evident and most claw joints distinct. WB-12, with a repunched 1 in the date and a reverse vertical die crack extending north from (HAL)F. The PCGS population is 127 pieces in all grades. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.4 (2005-2011) holder.

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1840-O Very Small O WB-7 50C, NGC AU58, Choice Original. Silver and gray centers lead to russet and brownish rim toning, and the eye appeal is strong. Nicely struck with star points evident, and nearly all the claws, except for the leftmost talon, separated. WB-7, with a small mintmark, the only use of this reverse die. CAC has certified 42 pieces in across all grades, with only six at the Mint State levels. There is a lot to be said for this piece, being close to CAC condition census and representing an interesting variety for the issue. Housed in an NGC Gen 7 holder with standard ring insert.

1841-O Baseball Die Crack Reverse WB-2 50C, PCGS AU50, Original. A good variety needs a good name, and the "Baseball Die Cracks" description of this WB-2R is apt, with a pair of reverse arcing cracks neatly emulating the stitching of a baseball. This example represents an advanced die state, with near-terminal cracks at the base of (AM)ERICA. The patina is pleasing, with bands of electric blue framing silver and brown centers. Light crust inhabits both shields. Typically struck, with weak obverse dentils and most claws blending together. Bugert rates the scarcity of this variety as R-5 (31-75 examples known). This is a favored die marriage among variety collectors, and one that should be more recognized by the market. Housed in PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder.

1844-O Center Dot Obverse WB-3 50C, PCGS AU50, Choice Original. Golden shade fills the fields of this New Orleans half, while the stars host deeper russet patina at the rim. Steel-blue color resides within in the protected areas of the central figures, and the piece reveals considerable flash for the grade. A few stars to the right are soft, but the claw joints are sharply separated. WB-3R, with centering dot on the thigh, mintmark punched low and to the left, and die crack joining the cap and star 9. This is a popular date, with 22 die marriages reported, but the existence of an obverse centering dot is unusual within the Liberty Seated series. Housed in a PCGS Gen 5.0 (2015) Dupont hologram holder. Ex. Oregon Beaver Collection.

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1845-O WB-2 50C, PCGS AU55, Choice Original. This wildly toned example exhibits a wash of navy-blue patina on both sides that strongly contrasts with the silver color remaining at the rims. Additional shades of russet and blue-green decorate the reverse legend. The luster is brilliant and frosty, and imparts swirling cartwheels. Well struck, with strong hair and star detail. WB-2, with a distinct die crack connecting UNITED and STATES, the only use of this reverse die in 1845. Housed in a PCGS Gen 5.0 (2015) holder.

1847 WB-5 50C, PCGS AU55 CAC, Choice Original. Golden patina resides in the protected areas of the obverse, while the reverse shading is more intense. Both sides exhibit light, scattered crust. Most stars retain center points, while the eagle's claws to the left are indistinct. The CAC census includes 36 pieces in all grades with 13 examples finer. WB-5, with cracks connecting the stars and a vertical die line extending from (AMERIC)A. Although not a tough date in the Seated half series, the situation is more challenging when originality is considered. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder with CAC approval.

1848 WB-7 50C, PCGS AU53, Near-Choice Original. Olive patina spreads across the obverse while the reverse exhibits intense, deep blue-green color throughout. Fields are steely and exhibit the moderate, remaining luster. This is a better date, with a mintage of 580,000 pieces, and is valued above the price of a type example. Well-struck, with sharp star centers and separated claws to the right, while the left claws are somewhat indistinct. WB-7, with upward sloping date and repunching evident in 18, and diagonal die lines present in the reverse shield. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder.

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1851 WB-7 50C, PCGS EF40 CAC, Choice Original. The 1851 half dollar was struck to the extent of 200,750 pieces, a low total within the Seated half series, but more significantly was melted in large quantities as massive gold discoveries increased the relative value of silver. When considering originality, the situation becomes even more challenging, as CAC has certified only 17 examples of this issue, with seven pieces finer. Mottled tan shades, heavier on the obverse of the present example, overlay pastel blue color on both sides. This piece will not sell cheaply, but the quality is worth reaching for, as this coin represent a near-CAC condition census example of one of the toughest dates in the Seated half series. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.6 (2003-2004) holder with CAC approval.

1853 Arrows & Rays 50C, PCGS EF45 CAC, Near-Gem Original. This thickly toned, original example reveals varied shades of rose, gray, and olive patina, with deeper shades surrounding the eagle. Both shields exhibit light dirt. The strike is typical, with minimal separation in the claw joints. CAC has certified 207 examples, a high number within the Liberty Seated series, but still only a tiny fraction of the original mintage. This one-year design is required for type sets, and original examples always attract attention when offered. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.6 (2003-2004) holder with CAC approval.

1858 WB-107 50C, PCGS AU55 CAC, Choice Original. Brilliant centers give way to russet rim toning on both sides, and the eye appeal of this collectible piece is strong. Frosty central figures emerge boldly from the planchet, and the remaining, partially mirrored flash is substantial. Sharply struck, with most claw joints distinct. While the 1858 die varieties have not yet been completed enumerated by Bill Bugert, the second 8 in the date is punched noticeably lower than the other digits and will serve to identify this obverse die. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.6 (2003-2004) holder with CAC approval.

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1858-O WB-1 50C, PCGS AU58 CAC, Gem Original. Original silver and grey skin covers both sides, with maroon and copper bits additionally evident at the rims. Obverse rim dirt is sprinkled south of the stars, with additional crust present within the reverse shield. The ample luster is frosted and granular. WB-1, with a radial die crack through (S)T(ATES). A couple stars are softly impressed but the claw joints are nearly all separated. The CAC population is 96 pieces in all grades. Although a common date, this piece is substantially tougher when CAC certification is considered. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.6 (2003-2004) holder with CAC approval.

1858-O 50C, PCGS AU53, Choice Original. Silver, tan, and chestnut colors form a medium skin on both sides of this collectible half dollar. Nicely struck, with most star centers well-defined and sharp delineation evident in the claw joints. The remaining luster is frosty and imparts swirling cartwheels. This is the most available New Orleans Seated half, with over a thousand pieces certified at PCGS, and would be an excellent representative for a type set. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder.

1861-O Union Administration W-1 50C, PCGS EF45, Near-Gem Original. The 1861-O half dollar variety set consists of 15 die marriages and commences with the W-1, which exhibits a tine extending from the upper serif of the left 1, and a mintmark punched high and left. This is the first of two die marriages coined while the New Orleans Mint remained under Union control. While the Confederate-struck pieces tend to be more popular with collectors, the two Union varieties are in fact the scarcest in the series, rated R-6 and R-5 respectively, as noted in the Bugert reference. This piece reveals light gold patina throughout, with deeper shades of russet, maroon, and navy blue at the rims. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder.

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1861-O Union Administration W-2 50C, PCGS AU58, Choice Original, Rare Union Issue. The 1861-O half dollar is ever fascinating, with coins variously struck under Union, Louisiana, and Confederate control. The recovery of thousands of examples from the SS Republic shipwreck only adds to the lore of the popular issue. This Union-struck example is deeply impressed, with nearly all claw joints distinct. The obverse exhibits alternating shades of silver and deep maroon, while the reverse is more lightly shaded with russet color at the rim and in the fields. W-2, with the date slanting up, mintmark punched high, and a reverse die crack connecting (STAT)ES. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder.

1861-O Louisiana Administration W-3 50C, PCGS AU55, Near-Gem Original. Brilliant centers host pleasing halos of russet patina at the rims, with additional charcoal and blue-gray hues present in the stars and legend. This Louisiana-struck piece is well-impressed with strong star points and most claw joints distinct. W-3, with a tine to the left of 1 in the date, and a mintmark punched high and to the left. Six of the fifteen varieties for this year were coined under Louisiana authority, and one might collect examples for each of three coining authorities or pursue a complete die marriage set. In either case the present sale is an important opportunity to acquire examples of these popular pieces. Housed in a PCGS Gen 3.1 (1993-1998) old green holder.

1861-O Louisiana Administration W-4 50C, PCGS AU55, Near-Gem Original. The Newtown consignment offers a wide variety of 1861-O halves and represents an excellent opportunity to start or continuing building a set of the 15 die marriages. This W-4 is characterized by an upward sloping date and a reverse die crack connecting ST and ATES. This piece was struck under Louisiana state control, one of six such varieties (W-3 through W-8). The obverse reveals a splash of evergreen patina, while the reverse is more deeply shaded. Bits of charcoal and russet patina additionally reside at the rims, while central devices exhibit original silver color. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.6 (2003-2004) holder.

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1861-O Louisiana Administration W-5 50C, PCGS MS62 CAC, Near-Gem Original. Original silver skin blankets both sides, leading to thin rings of burnt russet color at the rims. Ample frosty luster is evident and the overall eye appeal is exceptional. This is a Louisiana-struck issue, W-5, with the date sloping upward and weakness in the dentils below the left 1 in the date. The stars and feathers are mostly sharp, with a touch of softness at stars 7-8 and Liberty's head. The CAC population is 103 pieces in all grades, with 26 examples finer. This an attractive example that would please nearly any collector. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.0 (1998-2002) holder with CAC approval.

1861-O Louisiana Administration W-7 50C, PCGS AU50 CAC, Near-Gem Original. Even maroon patina blankets the obverse, while the reverse reveals additional shades of slate and olive color. High points are marked by silver color. A few stars are soft while the claws are separated, if faintly so. Reverse dentils are weak, not a surprise as this is the third use of this reverse die. Despite the recovery of thousands of pieces from the SS Republic, CAC has certified only 102 examples. This variety, W-7, was struck under Louisiana control of the New Orleans Mint and exhibits an upward sloping date with the mintmark high and centered. A CAC-approved set of all 15 1861-O die marriages, to our knowledge, has never been attempted. Why not start with this piece? Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder with CAC approval.

1861-O CSA Administration W-9 50C, PCGS AU53, Choice Original. The W-9 variety is the first of seven die marriages (W-9 through W-15) attributed to the Confederacy. This variety is identified by the die crack connecting stars 10-11, and a reverse die crack connecting STATES and OF. CSA-struck examples tend to be the most favored of all 1861-O halves, as the total production of all Confederate-struck coinage is minimal, and these pieces represent the best opportunity to obtain a coin directly connected to the Rebellion. This example exhibits light golden toning framed by colorful rim crescents on both sides. Nicely struck, with most claw joints separated. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder.

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1861-O CSA Administration W-11 50C, PCGS EF40, CSA Obverse, Original. Silver and charcoal shades contrast nicely on the obverse of this Confederate-struck piece, producing a near-cameo effect. The reverse reveals olive and deep gray shades gathering in protected areas, while the high points are lighter. This is an early die state of the CSA-struck W-11 variety, which exhibits the well-known die crack at the nose in later die states. The date slopes noticeably upward and the large mintmark is punched high and to the left. This obverse die, Bugert-5, is the same as used to later strike the four Confederate half dollars. Demand for straight-graded examples of the CSA 1861-O half is strong, and this piece will draw considerable bidder interest. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder.

1861-O CSA Administration W-13 50C, PCGS AU58 CAC, Bisected Date, Choice Original. Silver-gray surfaces host expansive crescents of ebony patina on both sides, with additional olive-golden shades evident around the eagle. W-13, with a vertical die crack to the left of 6 in the date, and a mintmark placed high and to the left. Strike is typical, with a couple soft stars and some weakness in the eagle feathers. Although not bearing the die crack at the nose that is called out in the Guide Book, the obverse die (Bugert-6) conclusively identifies this piece as a CSA emission. CAC has approved 103 examples of 1861-O halves, in addition to 37 pieces attributed to the CSA. The present sale represents a rare opportunity to acquire any number of the 1861-O half dollar varieties, including Union, Louisiana, and CSA-struck issues. Housed in a PCGS Gen 5.0 (2015) holder with CAC approval.

1861-O CSA Administration W-14 50C, PCGS EF45, Bisected Date, Speared Olive Bud, Original. Randy Wiley detailed the 1861-O half dollar varieties in the November 2005 and November 2006 editions of the Gobrecht Journal, and these two issues are likely the most referenced in the entire series. The CSA-struck W-14 variety is easily attributed by the vertical die crack through the date and the "speared bud" reverse that exhibits parallel die lines running through the top bud. This example reveals silver and gray shade throughout, with a few hints of gold patina surrounding the eagle. Well struck, with most of the left leg feather detail evident. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 holder. Ex. Saco River Collection.

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1861-O CSA Administration W-15 50C, PCGS EF45, Speared Olive Bud, Market Acceptable. This CSA-struck piece concludes the 1861-O variety set, and the current sale offers an excellent opportunity to begin or expand a collection of 1861-O die marriages. This is the W-15 variety, with a tine on the upper serif of the left 1, and the speared bud reverse, which features two die horizontal lines passing through the top bud. The toning of this example is primarily silver, with russet color overlaid on both sides. A charcoal crescent crosses the gown into the right field, while additional shades of maroon patina fill the fields to either side of the eagle's wings. The stars are sharply impressed, and the eagle claws are well-delineated apart from the leftmost set. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder.

1861 50C, PCGS EF45+ CAC, Choice Original. Sprinkles of light dirt cover both sides of this Civil War-dated example and mix nicely with the green-gold patina in the protected areas. While a matter of taste, this coin seems to exhibit the ideal amount of crust – enough to ensure originality while not distracting from the in-hand viewing experience. The strike is typical, with about half of the star centers present. Coinage production remained at normal levels during the first year of the Civil War, but quickly declined after 1861. CAC reports 93 examples in all grades. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder with CAC approval.

1866-S With Motto WB-2 50C, PCGS AU55, Underrated Date, Choice Original This richly toned example exhibits deep blue shading to the right of Liberty while the left stars reveal mixed gold, russet, and tan patina. The reverse is similarly colored with blue-gray shades in the protected areas and chestnut hue in the fields. WB-2, with a small mintmark punched high and placed under the feather tip. While not as prized as the No Motto variety, this remains a better date with less than a million pieces coined. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.6 (2003-2004) holder.

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1873 With Arrows WB-107 50C, PCGS AU50, Choice Original. Sea green patina neatly outlines the central devices and is additionally present in the stars and legend. Both sides exhibit a light dust of charcoal color, and the overall eye appeal is wholesome. WB-107, the small arrows variety, with shorter shafts, to either side of the date. Arrows were added in 1873 and 1874 to designate a change to a metric standard weight of 12.5 grams, and this is a pleasing example of the type. Housed in a PCGS Gen 3.1 (1993-1998) old green holder.

1875-S WB-19 50C, PCGS VF35, Micro S, Choice Original. This micro-S variety is a popular issue with cherry pickers and exhibits a distinct, small mintmark that was likely intended for use on a smaller denomination. The Bugert reference notes 29 examples in all grades, with most pieces clustered in the G-VG range. This near-EF example reveals deep gray shading with hints of blue and ebony patina, more so on the reverse. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.6 (2003-2004) holder.

1876 WB-106 50C, PCGS EF45, Large/Small Date, Gem Original. This important variety features a larger date style that was punched over a smaller date, with remnants of the first date remaining within the 1, 8, and 6 digits. This example reveals russet color in the protected areas, around the stars, legend, and within the figure of Liberty. Light dirt is evident in the shields and further outlines the devices. The strike is typical, with most claw joints blending together. This is a popular date, full of varieties, and this piece represents perhaps the most significant obverse die for the year. Overall eye appeal is excellent and the GFRC Gem rating is no accident. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.4 (2005-2011) holder with "Lg/Sm Date FS-301 (FS-007.4)" attribution on label. Ex. Cumberland Collection.

Liberty Seated Numismatic Auction Sale - Part 1

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction

1876-CC WB-2 50C, PCGS AU55 CAC, Gem Original. Russet patina lies in the protected areas of the stars and legend, while fields reveal blue and maroon shades. Surfaces are hairline-free and exceptionally smooth. Indeed, only high point rub separates this piece from a higher technical grade. The luster is sharp and reflective. CAC has certified 68 pieces in all grades. WB-2, with a diagonal line behind Liberty's eye, and the tops of (AME)RICA connected by a die crack. This strike is complete, with most of the claw joints separated. Carson City coins are ever popular, and this Centennial-dated example would be ideal for a type collection or a high-grade set of Seated halves. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.4 (2005-2011) holder with CAC approval.

1882 50C, PCGS VF20 CAC, Choice Original. Rose, emerald, and olive patina mix across the steely surfaces of this low-mintage example. Light crust is evident on both sides, more heavily within the reverse legend. The scarcity of this coin was recognized at the time of issue, and few pieces circulated. Indeed, of the 20 pieces approved by CAC in all grades, a mere five coins are certified in grades below Mint State. While uncirculated coins are certainly desirable, there is a certain charm that accompanies low mintage circulated pieces, particularly choice examples that exhibit a high degree of originality. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.5 (2002-2003) holder with CAC approval.